

THE CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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GERMANS STILL MASSING WESTERN FRONT FORCES

Gen. F. B. Maurice, Chief Director of British Military Operations, Declares Enemy Now Has 16 Divisions More Than Allies in West. Entente Superiority in Aircraft Diminishing.

London, March 6.—The Germans are still adding to the number of divisions on the western front, Gen. F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office, declared in his weekly talk with the Associated Press today. The Germans now have sixteen divisions more than the allies in the west, he said, but this did not mean that they were in superior strength, as the allied divisions were numerically larger. Gen. Maurice said the entente forces still held the superiority in rifles, guns and aircraft, but that

this superiority was diminishing.

Land On Aland Islands.

Berlin, via London, March 6.—In response to the Finnish government's request for military assistance, it is announced, officially German troops have been landed on the Aland Islands.

This official announcement confirms recent press dispatches concerning the movement of German troops to Finland. The German minister at Stockholm last week informed the Swedish government of Germany's intention to land troops on the Aland Islands, whither Sweden recently sent a small force.

INTERVENTION NOT ADVISABLE

United States Fears Action in Siberia Might Be Misunderstood by Russians.

NO CAUSE FOR SENSATION

Matter Frankly Discussed. German Menace Not Yet Warranting Risk Involved.

(By David Lawrence.)
(By Telegraph to The Chattanooga News, Copyright, 1918, by New York Evening Post Company.)

Washington, March 6.—Altogether, too much of a sensation has been made out of America's attitude toward a Japanese intervention in Siberia. The facts do not warrant it, and mistaken impressions are likely to be produced by the news. It is true that the United States has not assented to the suggestion of a Japanese expedition, but it is untrue also that the Washington government has dissented or protested. What, then, has the United States done? Here is the chronology that will answer that question:

Japan Worried.
First—Japan became worried over the changed situation in Russia; began to fear that the thousands of German and Austrian prisoners loosely guarded in Siberia would form a nucleus that would take possession of the Trans-Siberian railway and menace Japan.

Second—Japan did not act on impulse, but consulted her allies. England undertook to sound the members of the entente. France thought it a wise thing. England herself leaned to the French view. The United States made inquiries as to the facts of the military situation in Siberia.

Third—The United States considered the matter from every angle and gave it as her deliberate judgment that the intervention by any power in Siberia at this time might be misunderstood by the Russian people and for that reason would be inadvisable.

No Note to Japan.

Fourth—The Washington government sent no note to Japan, nor to the allies, but in the same friendly and informal way in which America's opinion was asked, was the reply given. As a matter of courtesy, the American ambassador at Tokyo was instructed to tell the Japanese government not by note, but orally, what the view of the United States was. That was the information of the Japanese government. It can neither be called a protest nor representation. It is simply an evidence of frankness, for when Great Britain and the United States are discussing what one of their allies should do, it would not be courteous to Japan not to tell her what is going on.

Situation Not Clear.

Fifth—The situation is by no means clear even to our government. Japan has not finally decided for herself what ought to be her course. She appealed to the allies for advice, and "I gave it freely. Unquestionably, the entente of France and Great Britain will be sufficient and Japan will go ahead. That involves no friction with the United States, no lack of faith in Japan, but simply a difference of opinion among allies.

Nor is it the first time that the allies have differed on the policy that ought to be pursued toward Russia. Once before the United States dissented from Great Britain's policy and President Wilson, in his message to congress last December, publicly stated his belief that things might have been better in Russia if the American policy had been pursued. America is not tied by any agreements or treaties and in a technical sense is simply a co-belligerent. But whenever the allies ask America for her views, this government expresses itself freely. There has been no special reason why the United States should be asked about a military situation in Siberia any more than in the Balkans. But realizing the profound interest of the United States in the fortunes of the new Russian democracy, the entente allies thought it advisable to make no move without consulting President Wilson.

President Informed.

The president has been informed of the advantages and disadvantages involved in Japanese intervention. It is true that considerable allied supplies are in danger, but that is a financial

"ONE OUT OF EVERY FOUR U-BOATS LOST."—GEDDES

London, March 6.—Some question having been raised over the meaning of the statement of Sir Eric Geddes in his speech yesterday with regard to the chances of the destruction of a German submarine in the North Sea, which a German submarine takes in cruising into British waters, Sir Eric said today to amplify it. It means, Sir Eric stated today, that "one submarine is lost out of every four or five submarines which start from enemy ports."

Special loss that is inconsiderable compared to the moral question involved. It is not a question of questioning Japan's motives or good faith, but the wisdom of letting any foreign military force invade Russian soil without the invitation of the Russian people.

View Not One of Sentiment.

The view that seems to be held by the government here is not merely one of sentiment, but efficacy of war policy. Shall the allies do in eastern Siberia what Germany is doing in western Russia—invade the helpless republic without her consent? President Wilson has taken the responsibility of saying, on behalf of the United States, that looked at from every angle, the immediate and remote dangers, the losses of today and the financial menace of the future, by and large, it is the duty of the allies to stick by the Russian democracy through thick and thin. It has been the traditional position of the United States to render moral support to countries struggling for democracy and the fact the allies might suffer some disadvantages or financial losses by altruism is no reason why they should desert. It is simply for the present or the future, to abandon the unselfish policy hitherto pursued by this country in dealing with defenseless peoples.

Alienating Russian People.

Japan, it is hoped here, will not misunderstand. It would be the same view if England sent a fleet up the Baltic to take Petrograd and land a British force. It has no fear of Japanese ambition. There will be plenty of ambitions to take care of at the peace table. It is simply for the case of alienating the Russian people who are by no means ready to become the vassals of Germany even though some of their leaders may have been forced to surrender to the Prussian army. Russia is capable of making a good deal of trouble for Germany yet. The United States doesn't want Russia to be in the position of wondering whether she will accept Japanese invasion from the east or German invasion from the west. So far as the United States is concerned, the Washington government wants the allies to pursue the kind of policy that will make it possible for Russia herself some day to ask for the help through Siberian lines of communication if she is menaced by Germany. But to intrude on Russia at this time when she is virtually helpless, is, in the opinion of the United States, not only inadvisable and the menace of Germany inside of Siberia has not yet sufficiently crystallized to warrant the risk involved in the protective measures proposed. Should the Russian really develop, Japan is in a position close at hand to drive Germany out of Siberia without difficulty, because the Teuton forces would have to depend on a long line of communications to Germany any part of which could be intercepted by advances from Manchuria or Mongolia.

PAULY AND WHITNEY WERE AVIATORS KILLED

Gasoline Tank Exploded at High Altitude Near Fort Sill Monday.

Lawton, Okla., March 6.—Lieut. Charles W. Pauly, of California, and Lieut. Frank B. Whitney, of New Jersey, were two aviators killed near Fort Sill Monday when the machine in which they were flying dropped to high altitude after the gasoline tank had exploded. Their home towns still could not be ascertained last night.

CONSERVATIVE NOMINEE WINNER IN COLUMBIA

Bogota, Colombia, Tuesday, March 5.—Semi-official returns of the election held Feb. 19 for a successor to Jose Concha, as president of this republic, indicate that Dr. Marco Fidel Suarez, nominee of the conservative party, was elected. His opponent was Guillermo Valencia, the coalition candidate.

WILSON REAPPOINTS HILL AS U. S. ATTORNEY

Washington, March 6.—Wilson S. Hill, of Clarksville, was nominated today by President Wilson to be United States attorney for the northern district of Mississippi. Mr. Hill's nomination is a reappointment.

REPORT FAVORING BILL FOR PROHIBITION ADOPTED

Albany, N. Y., March 6.—By a vote of 39 to 23 the assembly today adopted the report of the Judiciary committee favoring the ratification of the federal prohibition amendment. The measure was then made a special order for consideration next Tuesday.

ANCIENT AND HISTORIC CITY OF MOSCOW



Today's dispatches tell of hasty evacuation of Petrograd by both troops and the population. Bolsheviki have determined to establish seat of government at Moscow, the capital before Petrograd was built. This is where Napoleon, in his winter campaign, saw the tide of conquest turn against him when the rigorous Russian winter came to beat back his hosts which had overrun all Europe.

WOMEN CAST 50 PER CENT. VOTES

New York Suffragists Jubilant Over Results of Their First Ballot.

New York, March 6.—Women voters today expressed jubilation over their participation in yesterday's special congressional elections here, the first in which they have been allowed to vote in this state. Through the victories won by the democrats in four districts to fill vacancies caused by resignations, the democrats regain control of the house of representatives. Fully 98 per cent. of the women who registered cast their ballots, representing nearly 50 per cent. of the total vote.

The new representatives are John J. Delaney, in the Seventh, succeeding John J. Fitzgerald; Wm. E. Cleary, in the Eighth, succeeding Daniel J. Griffin; Jerome F. Donovan, in the Twenty-first, succeeding Murray Hulbert, and Anthony J. Griffin, in the Twenty-second, succeeding Henry Bruckner. Each victor announced his intention to stand by the administration and his war policy.

STUDY DRASTIC ORDERS TO SECURE CLEAN COAL

Washington, March 6.—Drastic orders are under consideration by the fuel administration to compel the mining of clean coal and dispose of general complaints that consumers have been obliged to buy dirt, stones and slate.

Dirty coal, investigation has shown, has even hampered the fast movement of army transports and naval vessels. Most of the dirty coal, it is said, has come from smaller mines which the operators themselves have been unable to reach, so action is planned by the government.

SHIPPING OUTPUT FAR SHORT OF LOSSES

London, March 6.—Sir John R. Ellerman, controlling owner of several steamship lines, speaking today at a meeting of the chamber of shipping, declared he believed it was right in saying that the whole output of shipping in this country since the outbreak of the war was not enough to replace the losses by marine causes alone, leaving the losses by enemy action yet to be made up.

SURE GERMAN SWORD WILL BRING TRIUMPH

Amsterdam, March 6.—The emperor's telegram of congratulation to King Frederick August of Saxony, in the same connection read: "I feel the greatest gratitude toward God and the army which has extorted from the east front now having become free, we have made an enormous step forward. Firmly trusting in the sword, I face a future which will, after all heavy sacrifices, bring us victory and a strong peace."

AWAIT REPLY TO REQUEST FOR VOICE IN WAGE BOARD

Washington, March 6.—The situation in eastern shipyards as it affects the woodworking trades today awaited the outcome of another request to President Wilson that the carpenters be given representation on the wage adjustment committee in shipbuilding disputes.

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RUMANIA TO AID TRANSPORT OF GERMAN TROOPS TO RUSSIA

Amsterdam, March 6.—A preliminary peace treaty between Rumania and the central powers was signed yesterday evening, says a dispatch from Bucharest. Under the terms of the agreement Rumania cedes the province of Dobruja as far as the Danube to the central powers. Rumania also undertakes to further the transport of Teutonic troops through Moldavia and Besarabia to Odessa.

Following are the terms of the preliminary peace treaty:

"1. Rumania cedes to the central allied powers Dobruja as far as the Danube.

"2. The powers of the quadruple alliance will provide and maintain a trade route for Rumania by way of Constanta to the Black sea.

"3. The frontier rectifications demanded by Austria-Hungary on the frontier between Austria-Hungary and Rumania are accepted in principle by Rumania.

"4. Jewish economic measures corresponding to the situation are considered in principle.

"5. The Rumanian government undertakes to demobilize immediately at least eight divisions of the Rumanian army. Control of the demobilization will be undertaken jointly by the upper command of Field Marshal Von Mackensen's army group and of the Rumanian chief army command. As soon as peace is restored between Russia and Rumania the remaining parts of the Rumanian army also will be demobilized insofar as they are not required for security service on the Russo-Rumanian frontier.

"6. The Rumanian troops are to evacuate immediately the territory of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy occupied by them.

"7. The Rumanian government undertakes to support with all its strength the transport of troops of the central powers through Moldavia and Besarabia to Odessa.

"8. Rumania undertakes immediately to dismiss the officers of the powers who are at war with the quadruple alliance still in the Rumanian service. The safe conduct of these officers is assured by the quadruple alliance. This treaty enters into operation immediately.

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